COMMUNITY CHARGE!
an anti-war newsletter

#1 FREE TO ALL JAN. 25 -FEB. 1

SECURED RACISM

Three of the largest "allied" nations involved in this war have a long and unavoidable racist HIStory. So it only makes sense that they would extend and highten their racism during war time. This is a new war, so why not a new name, they now call their racism "national security".

The U.S., which took it's land from the Indiginous people and built it up on the backs of the afrikan communities, has recently put surveilance on not just a suspicious individual but on whole communities (such as Detroit's Arabic community). They are making it impossible for people of almost every colour to go through the border, or anyone with an unsatisfactory bumper sticker, etc.

After the U.S. sent in "intelligence" people to stir up paranoia here months before the actual conflict. Canada's CSIS (Canadian Secret Intelligence Service) has made a mountain out of a mole hill, and has, with some success blacklisted members of the Arab community in the eyes of their neighbors. Most recently a young Palestinian man was arrested in possesion of a hand grenade. The police say it was not for political reasons, however all the information given to the media was of a political nature. It is not known whether the government is reacting to the fairy tale that a Scandanavian "terrorist" group has been in Ottawa for the last 5 months in order to hit "U.S. targets".

Britian is also one of the worst for reactionary racist policies (especially during war time). Earlier this week thirty people were arrested there under the "Prevention of Terrorism Act". This law was designed for suspicious (Irish) people entering or leaving mainland Britain. One of the thirty detained is a well known Palestinian journalist, when he requested to be let go, so he could state his case, he was told "no", and that he "wasn't supposed to know why he was being charged." He and the others could be imprisoned for months without being tried.

This article has not been written to rule out the fact that innocent people won't get hurt on both sides, because the reality is that people are being hurt. The people and communities that are being "investigated" are having to live with the burden of scrutiny by employers, fellow workers, friends, and the person on the bus. They are the first casualties of the war at home.

Remember, NO ONE IS ABOVE SUSPICION.

RESISTANCE UPDATE

NEW YORK

There has been massive resistance since Jan. 14.
-1000 students marched from Times Square to Broadway and battled police on the way to Wall Street. Some were arrested
-on the 15th there was a demonstration at the UN.
-on the 16th a large crowd marched from Times Square to the UN pushing through police barricades and were stopped half way accross the street from the UN. They then marched to a plaza connected to the UN where a rally was held and bonfires were build from torn down police barricades. The march then went to Times Wquare another bonfire was built they proceeded to Broadway then to Wall Street (60 blocks) but decided to go to the Brooklyn Bridge where a car drove into them infuring 7 and possible killing one
-there have been more demos since

SAN FRANCISCO

-continual demonstrations have been going on here more so than New York
-5 to 30,000 demonstrated on an almost daily basis
-there have been blockades of interstates and the main bridge into San Francisco
-on the 15th a march from the federal building to the Bay Bridge . The bridge was blocked for half an hour and police drove a motorcycle into the crowd running over and injuring some people. The crowds respnse to this was the burning and smashing of cop cars.
-the Chevron building, Maceys and City Band were attacked and suffered broken windows
-5000 people of colour marched from the Mission district and built fires outside of the Sherman Federal Building on Tue.
-there was a gay and lesbian anti-war march on the 19th
-mobile groups of 100 have been blocking traffic until cops show and then they move on to another area.
-police arrested about 50 on the 16th and held them in a warehouse for 10hrs without food, water or calls to lawyers. The police were also supposdly to have been building cages to hold other arrestees.

MINNEANAPOLIS

-large protests every couple days
-1st 2 days before the war broke out 10,000 demonstrated at a colledge
-on the 17th 5000 disrupted the downtown core
-2500 marched through downtown on the 18th
-6000 dragged dumpsters into the streets and set them on fire

SEATTLE

-60,000 rallied and held a vigil

DETROIT

-several demonstrations have happened
-police attacked a demo that began at a recruiting centre people including a lot of anarchist youth fought back

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A RACIST WAR

The war that is being fought in the Gulf is a racist war. It is important that the anti-war movement is aware that it is racist not only abroad against the Iraqi people, but also at home against people of colour. Groups such as Afro-Americans, Latinos, Native peoples and others will bear the brunt of the casualties caused by this war.

Presently we are seeing on television the white pilots celebrating the success of their bombing missions. In the weeks to come, however, the government has said that this will change to land assult and hand to hand combat. No doubt, like in Vietnam, people of colour will be on the frontlines. Statistics show that 40% of the U.S. army is black, this statistic does not include the large percentage of Puerto Ricans and Natives which make up a large portion of the army.

Two black womyn from San Francisco have already become conscientious objectors to the Gulf war and refuse to fight. Their reasons for opposing the war are because of their manipulation into the army reserves. This poses the larger question of how the U.S. military manipulates the poor into joining the army.

Often people of Afro-American or Latino origin from ghettoes are given reduced sentences for prison terms, offers to pay university fees as well as a way out of the circle of poverty in Americas ghettoes, in exchange for serving in the army

reserves. Many people whose families are poverty struck will join the army as a way to receive a paycheck to feed and cloth their hungry families. Many Native peoples are forced to do this because of the forced poverty their reserves.

It is obvious that this war has taken on racist contexts both abroad and at home. It is important that we be aware, when the body bags come home, as to who the real casualties are.

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-police charged people with incite to riot eventhough the they were clearly resisting policy brutality
-the mayor has called for the National Guard but the governor has refused
-there are also rumours of the National Guard being called out in San Francisco

BOSTON

-students smashed windows and occupied 4 bridges
-students also shut down some high schools for 2 days
-100 students were arrested

OTHER NEWS

-Chicago, 5000 shutdown Federal Building and streets in downtown
-500 marched in New Orleans
-Students at the U. of Michigan cut ESPN (a sports channel) cables during the live broadcast of a football game to protest the media blackout of anti-war demonstrations
-in New York ABC,NBC, CBS offices were spraypainted and postered with anti-blackout messages
-UCLA students have occuppied various campus buildings and called for a student strike
-5000 rallied outside the Los Angeles Federal Building
-in Eugene Oregon an armed forces recruiting building was firebombed
-the Ministry of War (defence) in Ottawa was blocked off by protesters police were brutal in arresting people
-recruiting centre in Hamilton was shutdown for the day on the 21st by protesters numbering about 25
-demonstrations in Toronto have been frequent. The largest are usually on Saturdays
-on the 19th in T.O. 3000 rallied at Nathan Phillips Square and marched on the U.S. consulate then blocked in the downtown core
-students in Hamilton took over City Hall for an hour and a half, then marched down one of the main streets holding up traffec
-on the 12th there were marches in both Hamilton and Toronto and probably in several other cities across Canada
-students in Montreal walked out of school and resisted police attacks
-Vancouver students walked out and shut down parts of the skytrain (subway) and marched through downtown areas

This list is far from complete as it leaves out international protests. Unfortunately we have heard no reports from places other than those listed.

A good source of ante-war news is from the New Liberation News Service POB 41, MIT branch, Cambridge, MA 02139
These actions were for the most part blacked out by the mainstream media and are hard to confirm. Therefore we do NOT claim that all of the reports are fully accurate. We would love to hear from anyone with national or international new.
STOP THE MEDIA BLACKOUT CREATE ALTERNATIVE NEWS NETWORKS AND CONTINUE THE ANTI-WAR RESISTANCE.

SOURCES OF SUFFERING

War has begun. As everyone knows this is an economic war. The Middle East was divided by Western imperialism. Simply meening that the potential for making and control over Middle Eastern natural resources and labour took precidence over national identities and the leberation of its citizens. So with this in mind there is no doubt that Western (north amerikan) corporations are building the war machine. So here's a list of the notorious corporations responsible for this and other war "efforts":

1. General Electric (GE) - the makers of light bulbs, major weapon and engine parts for military helicopters and airplanes. Used to destroy workers villages in El Salvador to flush out the resistance movement. Most times they are wrong for machines guns are indiscriminate. However profits are not. GE's helicopter was used in the initial air raid on Bagdad. Kuwait ownes 3% of GE.

2. IT&T - This company has a military contract to manufature the communication systens for Amerikkkan military uses. i.e. communication between the war planes and their bases.

3. IBM - The major contractor for U.$. military use pertaining to the computor (and communication) systems from the Pentagon to the individual fighter. They are also very much involved in the nuclear capable weaponry (including their guidance systems).

4. Westinghouse - This directly effects Canadian military involvement in the Gulf. They act much the same way that IBM does for the Amerikan military. They produce guidance systems for Canadian war machines. Possibly this system is used in CF-18s as well they produce for many other "allied" nations involved in seperate "police actions" where Canada is not "involved". They have a strong presents at the ARM-X weapons convention held in Canada every two years. The next ARM-X isto be held next summer in Ottawa.

5. DuPont - This company has been producing chemical capibilities for the U.$. military for a number of years. This came to light during the U.$.'s attacks on the El Salvadorian people. They also are responsible for the chemical resiliant capabilities of the U.$. forces. This could very well pertain to this very issue. The camaflage paint used by the U.$. is also a product of DuPont. This includes the very recent conversion of their military machinery from green to desert camaflage.

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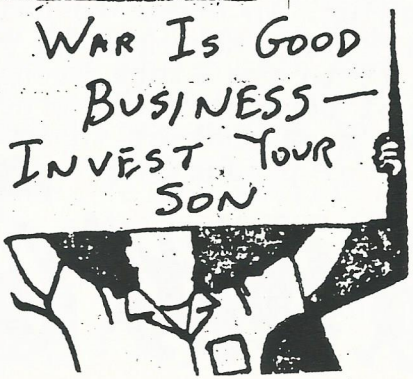

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6. Exxon - (meaning exxterminate, exxacute exxalvador) What can be said exept that they are the Western World's link to the actual Oil role of the war. They have been BLEEDING THE WORLD DRY not only in the Middle East. They have been extracting oil from traditional Indiginous lands for the past decade and certainly don't have a spotless enviromental record. Exxon is the largest oil extracting company on earth. They have almost single handedly brought the Arab states, U.$. involvment in this war. DON'T BE FOOLED. They are related to Esso, Imperial(ist) Oil, Texaco, Petro Canada, etc..

We can't wait three years for this war to end. It's built on economices and can fall because of economics through boycotting there products we will hurt them where it counts. On Tuesday the 15th of January, 1991, people went on mass to the Stock Exchange in Toronto to protest this source of suffering where it starts. As a result of the war, the Stock Exchange has reported stocks reaching its second highest in history. This is an obvious indication of why this war is happening. In order to build an EFFECTIVE movement we must take it to the Stock Exchanges, we must boycott their products and we must protest their places of production.

SOLIDARITY IS STRENGTH

Other industries involvement in the war to be investigated are: LOCKHEED IND., LITTON, GENERAL FOODS, GENERAL DYNAMICS AMERIKAN AIRLINES, BOEING, BASF FORD, GENERAL MOTORS, PROCTOR & GAMBLE, GOODYEAR, RAYTHEON, TRIMBLE NAVIGATIONS, ETC...

Community Charge is an alternative information collective, based on breaking the media black-out of war resistance. We will provide an analysis on the true nature of this conflict.

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